

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A droplet generator for a continuous stream ink jet print head includes an elongate cavity for containing the ink and nozzle orifices in a wall of the cavity for passing ink from the cavity to form jets. The nozzle orifices extend along the length of the cavity. An actuator is disposed on the opposite side of the cavity to the wall for vibrating the ink in the cavity such that each jet breaks up into ink droplets. In operation of the generator, a standing wave is present in the ink in the cavity. The cross-sectional area of the cavity varies along its length in a manner so as to tailor the form of the standing wave in the cavity such that each jet breaks up into the ink droplets at a respective predetermined distance from the wall of the cavity.